GOVERNMENT — NEWS

State Senator Jason Lewis announces retirement

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

February 24, 2026 . 11:32 AM — 2 min read

Sen. Jason Lewis has announced his retirement at the end of his term. COURTESY PHOTO/OFFICE OF SEN. JASON LEWIS

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis:

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Dear friends,

After almost 12 years of proudly representing the Fifth Middlesex District, I have made the difficult decision not to run for re-election to the state Senate this year.

Serving in the Senate and previously in the House of Representatives has been a great privilege. I am truly grateful to the voters who placed their faith in me in numerous elections. I have had the opportunity to work on impactful legislation—like universal paid family and medical leave, increasing the minimum wage, the Student Opportunity Act, the Fair Share Amendment, strengthening early education and childcare, and Alzheimer's treatment—that has improved the lives of my constituents and residents across the Commonwealth. I have also been able to partner with community groups to pursue exciting local projects, including constructing the Tri-Community Greenway, opening the Bridge Recovery Center, renovating the Winchester Center Commuter Rail Station, building many new schools, and more. It has also been very rewarding to provide constituent services that have helped people access healthcare, unemployment insurance, housing assistance, and resolve other issues that they are struggling with.

I have certainly not done this work alone! I appreciate the hard-working and talented staff that have been part of my team over the years, my wonderful colleagues in the House and Senate, dedicated state and municipal public sector employees, inspiring citizen advocates and activists, and others who care deeply about public service and strengthening our communities. We have made a good team.

I look forward to continuing to serve my constituents until the last day of this legislative term. After that I will begin a new chapter in my life, one in which I will find new ways to make a meaningful impact.

Finally, I want to acknowledge how disheartening it has been to [illegible] profession that I greatly respect—public service—be so utterly corrupted,

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abused, and debased by Donald Trump and his cronies. Since he was re-elected, I have struggled to maintain my optimism; but I draw strength and hope for our future from the many amazing people that I have had the great fortune to work with. I know firsthand their determination, integrity, resilience, compassion, and courage. Together, we will continue to strive for greater justice, equity, and opportunity for all.

State Senator Jason Lewis

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GOVERNMENT

Candidate profiles now available in 2026 election guide

Candidate profiles for both the town wide and Town Meeting member races are now live in the Winchester News/League of Women Voters of Winchester 2026 Election Guide. While the deadline for submission was Feb. 24, if a candidate has not turned in their profile and/or headshot, they may

WINCHESTER NEWS
February 25, 2026

NEWS

Senator Lewis and Mass. Senate Approve Permanent "Blue Envelope" Program Supporting People with Autism

The following was submitted by the office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Senator Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation to help foster safer interactions between police and people with autism spectrum disorder by codifying the "blue envelope" program, first advanced by the Senate last

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September 10, 2025

NEWS

New proposal submitted for 10 Converse Place

Urban Spaces submitted a new proposal for a smaller building at 10 Converse Place during

NEWS

New design plan for Winchester's old Midas Muffler sh

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At its Sept. 2 meeting the Pla got a new design proposal from Treetop

a Public Hearing at the Planning Board meeting Tuesday, Sept. 2. “We worked to understand the town’s requests,” Urban Spaces developer Paul Ognibene told the members. “The message we got was to live within

NEIL ZOLOT | CORRESPONDENT
September 9, 2025

Development for the site that is currently being used for parking and storage by a landscape company. Originally submitted in early summer, the project has evolved from a three-story residential building to a mixed-use commercial

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September 8, 2025

Latest

EVENTS

Celebrate Women’s History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester’s School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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